



CITY OF DANBURY

FIRE DEPARTMENT
19 NEW STREET
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

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Danbury Fire Department

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Public Health Committee
Room 3000, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Raised House Bill 6518

Dear Members of the Public Health Committee,

The Danbury Fire Department is requesting your support for House Bill 6518. This raised bill is an Act concerning Emergency Medical Services, with the purpose to make changes to statutes concerning the provision of emergency medical services.

We support this with the certainty that as the holder of the EMS Primary Service Area (PSA) here in Danbury, we have control and involvement in the provision of Emergency Medical Services for the City. The Fire Service in the State of Connecticut is the primary EMS first responder in municipalities. With this responsibility it is important to maintain this authority over the PSA. Should the services provided for our citizens need modification and or substantial changes, this allows the City of Danbury to make those if we deem it needed for the citizens.

Danbury has held the PSA even after awarding the contract to a private concern in 1992. It has proven to be extremely beneficial and allowed us to make the decisions regarding "our destiny" as to EMS services.

The proposed HB-6518 is an Act concerning the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board and is intended to streamline OEMS operations by addressing the issues and conflicts that are effecting EMS management statewide.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Herald
Chief Fire Officer